



Gardiner Chamber of Commerce

Meeting date: **Thursday, December 19, 2013** **Started: 12:00 PM** **Ended: 1:40 PM**

Location: Upstairs at the Gardiner Market

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Daniel Bierschwale

Minutes rec. by: Gardiner Chamber

Attendance:

Present: Barbara Shesky, Gardiner Market, Headwaters B&B, Montana Guide Service, Mountain Home, Mountain Mike's Tours, Town Cafe, Upper Yellowstone River R, Wild West Rafting, Wildflower Bakery, Yellowstone River Lodge, Yellowstone Safari, YP Riverfront Cabins, Schalene Darr, "Be Our Guest " House, Frankie Aars, Above the Rest Lodge, Absaroka Lodge, B Bar Ranch, B Wood Photography, Bear Lair Lodge, Bill Berg, Best Western By Mammoth Hotsprings, Sandy Bierle, Daniel Bierschwale, Big Wild Adventures, Cabin By The River, Gardiner Chamber, Child Care Connections, Comfort Inn- Yellowstone North, Crevice Mountain Lodge, Scott Demaree, Diamond Bar Heart Guest Ranch, Elk River Art Gallery and Studio, Elk River Lodge, Entre Nous, ERA Landmark Western Land, Gardiner Food Pantry, Gardiner Laundry, Gardiner Pharmacy/Yellowstone Perk, Gateway Hose Company, Gold Strike Gifts, Graybeal's All Service, Greater Gardiner Community Council, Hell's A Roarin' Outfitters, Hillcrest Cottages, Anna Holloway, Home on the Range, Cheryl Hoppe, Johnstad's B&B and Log Cabin, Kellem's Montana Saddlery, Little People's Learning Center, Livingston Job Service, Cowboy's Lodge, Chris Lyness, MacNeil Lyons, Medcor Inc at Yellowstone, Midwest Welding and Machine, Jean Modesette, Montana Buffalo Company, Montana Whitewater Rafting&Zipline, Mountain Mobile Auto Glass, North Entrance Vacation Rental, North Entrance Washtub, NorthWestern Energy, Paradise Adventure Company, Paradise Gateway B&B & Vacation , Richard Parks, Photos by Sandi, Rainbow Ark, Riversbend Lodge, Riverside Cottages, Smith Family Ranch, Stafford Animal Shelter, Stonegate Chiropractics, Story Distributing, Subway, The Wildside Tours and Treks, Two Bit, Upper Yellowstone Roundup Assoc., Wild Bear Adventures, Wilderness Connection, Wolf Ridge Lamb & Wool Company, Xanterra, Yellowstone Association, Yellowstone Basin Inn, Yellowstone Country, Yellowstone Federal Credit Union, Yellowstone Gallery & Frameworks, Yellowstone Gateway Inn, Yellowstone General Stores, Yellowstone Mine, Yellowstone Park Travel Lodge, Yellowstone Raft Company, Yellowstone River Motel, Yellowstone Suites B&B, Yellowstone Super 8 Motel, Yellowstone Village Inn, Yellowstone Wilderness Outfitters

Regrets:

Absent: Brian Suderman

Late:

Guests:

(none)

Meeting Documents:

(no documents)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Chamber Business

1.1. Roll Call & Introductions

Daniel Bierschwale

- Daniel Bierschwale
- Richard Parks
- Anna Holloway
- Frankie Aars
- Scott Demaree
- Sandy Bierle
- Cheryl Hoppe



Schalene Darr
Jean Modesette

Minutes:

Sandy, Anna, Schalene, Richard, not present.
Quorum present 12:05pm
(Schalene, Sandy and Richard arrived 7 after.)

Status: Completed

1.2. Directors Report

Gardiner Chamber

Update on office operations
Yellowstone Country Kiosk
Bring back passenger Railroad petition
Petition for Community Support Park County Pedestrian Connector Trail

Minutes:

Review Directors reports. On tract for the month of December.
Yellowstone Country kiosk- discussion of the value of this structure located on the northern end of town next to the Wagon Wheel Motel and Outlaws, as YC is planning to either gift it to us or dismantle it.
Discussion- We should make an effort to utilize this until we can get to where we have a visitor/port of entry. We can use it for Gardiner/Chamber promotions. Determine if it is for the pullout and the kiosk or just the kiosk. We think that the area is owned by MDOT. Danny will reach out to Wild West regarding their use of it in the summer as a place to park their bus. In the interim we will let Yellowstone Country know we will take over it. We also have pockets of state property along the Jardine intersection. We should utilize everything possible.

Of note the bank has permission to beautify the area where all the sagebrush is.
Initiate a conversation with MDOT to gain access to funding to improve these little pockets of public land.

Welcome to our new Board members!

The office has a copy of a bike trail petition for funding the extension of the trail that is on the south end of Livingston to have the trail extend to the Old Yellowstone Trail and beautify the trail, put in more picnic tables and hopefully get the trail to make biking easier and safer to Gardiner eventually.

Discussion- The trail begins by RY lumber. An extension to Rock Canyon trail is what we are talking about.

In-line with our organization. This petition is to do the first section (gap by Carters Bridge)

Rail service petition. This petition is a citizen's initiative to get the commissioners to pursue bringing passenger rail service back to Livingston. This is an opportunity for us to co-op with Livingston and work with them and the citizens of Gardiner and other communities in Park County. Also, Richard noted that the linx bus might be able to offer transportation- Xanterra is offering transport for those people staying with them in the Park from the Bozeman airport. There will have to be a tie in of public transportation for all of this to work

Montana Governor's conference- the last few years we have had a table courtesy of Xanterra we should at least have two people go. Danny- maybe we should have more board members go and buy a table – Discussion- it is not too expensive we should go ahead and buy a table and pay for the entrance fee for another person to attend The table purchase price includes one entry fee as well. We will also pay for two hotel rooms as we did last year. We should also let the members know about it and the opportunity that it offers insights on tourist trends. This year we will bring members info,. GGP info and Northern Range info as well. This will be a great time to roll out our video- it will be completed by then.

Motion to allocate funds for a booth space and 2 entry fees and two hotel rooms to attend this years' Governor's Conference as well as seek donations from members as a raffle prize.

Resolution #: 2014-01/16-01

Moved by: Scott Demaree

Seconded by: Richard Parks

Status: Carried

Vote: All in favor. Motion passes.

1.3. Treasurer's Report

Cheryl Hoppe

treasurer's report
2013/2013 budget presentation for approval.



Minutes:

Last year the Executive Committee had to struggle to create the budget and Quick books has made this process much more streamlined, Frankie- thank you for your assistance-

This year the budget, once again, shows a projected loss. Barbara feels that this is due to the fact that the GGP fund cannot be included as an income because we received the funds in 2012 but because it is held in an account under the Chamber name and as such needs to be included in our Quickbooks program, even though we reserve those funds for very specific expenditures and those expenses associated with the project are paid by that account. These expenditures also have to appear on our budget and P/L. Also, our insurance premiums are higher this year as, in the past, the chamber was inadequately insured and that problem has been rectified.

No Discussion

Resolution #: 2014-1/16-02

Moved by: Richard Parks

Seconded by: Jean Modesette

Status: Carried

Vote: All in favor. Motion Passes.

2. Old business

No Old business

3. New business

3.1. Committee Chair assignments

Daniel Bierschwale

Appointments of the chairs of:

Marketing

Properties/Facilities

Membership

Events

Nominating

Gardiner Gateway Project

sub-committee: Gardiner Welcome Center/Public Restrooms/Resort Tax

Yellowstone Country

Minutes:

Committee Chairs and volunteers:

Marketing: Chair- Jean Modesette

CVB: Danny Bierschwale will assist

Properties and Facilities: Chair- Schalene Darr, Co-chair: Scott Demaree

Membership: Chair: Sandy Bierle, Co chair- Scott Demaree

Events: Chair- Frankie Aars

Committee: Anna Holloway, Jean Modesette, Sue Johnson, Sarah from Paradise Adventure Company and Sarah from Yellowstone Gifts and Sweets

Nominations: Chair- Cheryl Hoppe

GGP: Chair: Danny Bierschwale

Sub- committee- Resort Tax Initiative and Gardiner Welcome

Center/Public Restrooms: Chair: Richard Parks

Yellowstone Country: Chair Danny Bierschwale

Resolution to approve the slate:

Resolution #: 2014-1/16-03

Moved by: Sandy Bierle

Seconded by: Schalene Darr

Status: Carried



Vote: All In Favor. Motion carried.

4. Committee Business

4.1. Marketing

Jean Modesette

Minutes:

MT Mainstreet program article will come out at the end of January.

RE: August 25, 2016 -In late October the park service had a call for ideas for centennial celebration ideas. We have the lofty goal of having the president come here for a public address at the signature event. We have buy in by the Superintendent for this event. Our next steps are to engage with the state. We are going to need a party planner and a budget after this March if we are chosen. The Park Service will be selecting ideas for the celebration in January. Bill has met with Park Service several times over the past year. We think we have a really good shot and no one in the Nation has a project that is T'd up as well.

Status: Completed

4.2. Gateway Cooperatives & Partnerships

Jean Modesette

Minutes:

Jean Modesette and our partner, Donna, from the Cooke City Chamber, have finished and submitted the second grant application funds for the production of the NRPC video.

The film crew will be coming here throughout January to scope locations and then film a 3-5 minute film which will appear on the Montana Office of Tourism U-tube channel, the MT website, our website, Cooke City website and of course, the Northern Range website. This video will also be made available to any members that want to upload it to their businesses website.

It will be both a winter and summer video they just don't have any winter video- so that is why they will be here and in the Cooke City area to film.

Status: Completed

4.3. Gardiner Welcome Center, Resort Tax Petition and Public Restrooms

Gardiner Chamber

Approval of RT area survey bill

Update on resort tax process

Minutes:

RT Update-

The petition process hit a snag when we found out that when the petition was submitted, what we thought was the legal description (*note*:required by Park County, The State did not require a legal description, just a map of the area) it really wasn't contiguous.

So we moved ahead to get it redesignated and we received the designation approval letter from the state of Montana.

Our rodeo grounds and the fire station/EMS are now included in the area and Park County currently has the petition in hand which includes the new legal description, we expect approval on Friday- we need everyone on the Board to get signatures.

If the resort tax is approved by those residents residing within the resort area boundaries, we will next need a petition to form the District so that Gardiner manages the money. We will need to have another election.

We will have to deal with the Commissioners on this as at that point, the state will be out of the picture. Both elections will be by mail in ballot.

Gather forms and documentation on creating a Board / District

Everyone needs to be on the committee to get the fact sheet – Richard will get the sheet together Danny will work up an invite to get it moving

Hank Rate Bill - \$950 needs paid for the new legal description, this will come out of the ggp fund.

no discussion- motion passes.

Resolution #:

Moved by: Scott Demaree

Seconded by: Richard Parks

Status: Carried



Vote: All in favor

4.4. Date Next Meeting

Daniel Bierschwale

Plan for meeting schedule of the upcoming year

Minutes:

This year we are scheduling the monthly meetings to be held on the 3rd Thursday every month at noon here at the Gardiner Market- Many thanks to Scott and Rebecca for opening up their space for our usage.

Status: Completed

4.5. Public Comment

Gardiner Chamber

Minutes:

Public Comment:

An MSU extensions agent to come down for a Board retreat. Sometime this winter. A few hours for us all to meet and connect as a Board.

With regard to public restroom creation and funding- Questions/comments- David Two - Bit- Chuck Tanner K-Bar There is a need for Restrooms and a new home for the Chamber. Create a more pedestrian friendly town. A way to connect the two sided town. Richard reviewed the RT process. The tax will be collected from June to September, it is 3%. There is a form that each business will have to fill out each month that the RT is in effect. We will hire a 3rd party administrator by forming the district so that locally elected officials are in charge of how the money is spent the money can only be spent in the Resort area.

Schalene: GGCC party at the Hell's A'roarin' celebration of the things done everyone is invited RSVP to Sue!

Status: Completed

Total time scheduled: 60 min

Recording Secretary:

Chairperson:

Date:
